

550,095

## (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
30 September 2004 (30.09.2004)

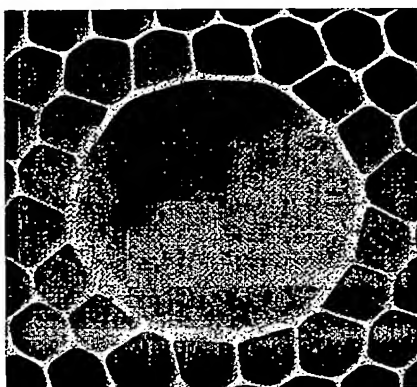
PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/083918 A1**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **G02B 6/20**
- (21) International Application Number:  
PCT/GB2004/001251
- (22) International Filing Date: 22 March 2004 (22.03.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
- |           |                                |    |
|-----------|--------------------------------|----|
| 0306593.5 | 21 March 2003 (21.03.2003)     | GB |
| 0306606.5 | 21 March 2003 (21.03.2003)     | GB |
| 0321991.2 | 19 September 2003 (19.09.2003) | GB |
| 0322024.1 | 19 September 2003 (19.09.2003) | GB |
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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:  
— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **PHOTONIC BANDGAP OPTICAL WAVEGUIDE WITH ANTI-RESONANT CORE BOUNDARY**



(57) Abstract: Improved photonic band-gap optical fibre The present invention relates in particular to improved photonic band-gap optical fibres that can confine light to a core region of the fibre by the action of both a photonic band-gap cladding and an antiresonant core boundary, at the interface between the core and cladding. According to embodiments of the present invention, a fibre has a core, comprising an elongate region of relatively low refractive index, a photonic bandgap structure arranged to provide a photonic bandgap over a range of wavelengths of light including an operating wavelength of light, the structure, in a transverse cross section of the waveguide, surrounding the core and comprising elongate relatively low refractive index regions interspersed with elongate relatively high refractive index regions and a relatively high refractive index boundary at the interface between the core defect and the photonic bandgap structure, the boundary having a thickness around the core such that the boundary is substantially anti-resonant at the operating wavelength of the fibre. In preferred embodiments, the core boundary is a relatively constant thickness region of glass around a hollow core.

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— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

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